

REMARKS

With this response, applicant has amended claims 76, 79, 83, and 91, canceled claim 82 (without prejudice), and have added no new claims. Thus, claims 51, 54, 55, 69, 70, 74-81 and 83-92 are presently pending. Of these claims, claims 51, 54, 55, 69, 70, 74-78 and 87-90 stand allowed with claims 83 and 84 indicated as reciting allowable subject matter. As such, reconsideration and allowance of claims 76, 79, 83 and 91 are respectfully requested as applicant believes this application to be in condition for allowance and allowance is respectfully also requested.

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's careful and thorough examination of the claims directed to his invention, including allowance of claims 51, 54, 55, 69, 70, 74-78 and 87-90 and the indication of allowability of claims 82-84.

Independent claim 76, indicated as allowed, has been minorly amended to add the term "substantially" in front of the term "flush" to avoid this claim being so narrowly construed and to take into account the real world possibility that the fastener head may not always be disposed perfectly flush with the other one of the ejector pin head end walls. No further searching is believed required nor are any issues believed raised by this amendment such that entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

In response to the rejection made under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), independent claim 79 has been amended by incorporating limitations previously recited in dependent claim 82 (now canceled), a claim indicated by the Examiner as reciting allowable subject matter. Reconsideration and allowance of independent claim 79 is hereby respectfully requested.

Dependent claim 83 has been amended to change its dependency from that of dependent claim 82 to independent claim 79 in view of the cancellation of claim 82. Claims 83 and 84 are believed presented in condition for allowance at least for ultimately depending from an independent claim believed presented in condition for allowance. For at least this reason, these claims are also believed presented in condition for allowance and allowance of each claim is respectfully requested.

To address the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, independent claim 91 has been amended so the shaft of the ejector pin barrel and the socket of the ejector pin head are no

longer required to be splined with claim 91 amended to instead require the socket comprise a flat portion and that the shaft be complementarily formed so as to be received in the socket. It is believed that these amendments place independent claim 91 in condition for allowance. It is also believed that the amendments raise no new issues as the limitations added by amended are presented separately or collectively in other claims, including allowed claims. It is also believed that for these same reasons, no further searching is required. For at least these reasons, independent claim 91 is believed presented in condition for allowance and its allowance is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

The presently pending claims set forth above are all believed presented in condition for allowance and their allowance is respectfully requested.

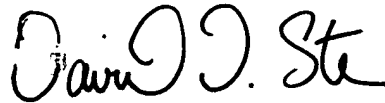
Applicant hereby requests a three-month extension of time from February 28, 2006 until March 30, 2006 and encloses a check in the amount of the requisite \$60 small entity fee to pay for the extension. No other fees are believed to be due with the submission of this communication. Nevertheless, the Director is authorized to direct any additional fees associated with this or any other communication, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-1170.

Serial No. 10/021,770 to Klaus WIEDER
Art Unit: 1722

Reply to Office Action of November 30, 2005
Confirmation No. 3922

Applicant believes the application is now in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly requested. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, the attending to of which would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number appearing below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David D. Stein". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "David" and last name "Stein" clearly distinguishable.

David D. Stein
Registration No. 40,828

USPTO Customer No. 23,598

Boyle, Fredrickson, Newholm,
Stein & Gratz, S.C.
250 Plaza Building, Suite 1030
250 East Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53202
Telephone: (414) 225-9755
Facsimile: (414) 225-9753
Email: dds@boylefred.com